

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T JERUSALEM 1132

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PBOR, MARR, UNSC, IS, LE  
SUBJ: SIILASVUO-EITAN MEETING, APRIL 17

REF: JERUSALEM 1130

1. SIILASVOU HAS GIVEN ME IN CONFIDENCE A COPY OF HIS  
REPORT TO WALDHEIM ON SIILASVUO-EITAN MEETING APRIL 18.  
PLEASE PROTECT.

2. BEGIN TEXT. IN ACCORDANCE WITH WHAT WAS AGREED BETWEEN  
YOURSELF AND MINISTER OF DEFENSE WEIZMAN IN YOUR MEETING  
YESTERDAY, APRIL 17 1978, I MET TODAY, 18 APRIL, IN TEL  
AVIV WITH IDF CHIEF OF STAFF, GENERAL EITAN, TO DISCUSS  
THE TIMETABLE AND MODALITIES OF ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM  
SOUTHERN LEBANON. I REITERATED THAT THE PRESENT STRENGTH  
OF UNIFIL WOULD ALLOW ANOTHER PHASE OF WITHDRAWAL BY THE  
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20TH OF APRIL AND THAT IDF SHOULD COMPLETE ITS PULL-  
BACK FROM SOUTHERN LEBANON BY THE END OF APRIL WHEN UNIFIL  
IS EXPECTED TO HAVE DEPLOYED THE SENEGALESE AND PROBABLY  
PART OF THE NIGERIAN BATTALIONS. I ALSO MENTIONED THAT  
IRAN WOULD CONTRIBUTE A FULL BATTALION TO UNIFIL IF ISRAEL  
COMMITTS HERSELF TO A COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL FROM SOUTHERN  
LABANON AND REFERRED TO YOUR INTENTION TO PROPOSE TO THE

SECURITY COUNCIL AN INCREASE OF UNIFIL STRENGTH TO 6,000 MEN. WITH THIS STRENGTH, UNIFIL WILL BE ABLE TO CARRY OUT ITS MANDATE, FIRST TO ENSURE IDF IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL AND THEN TO ASCERTAIN, USING FORCE IF NECESSARY, THAT ITS AREA OF OPERATIONS IS NOT USED FOR HOSTILE ACTIVITIES.

3. IT WAS AGREED WITH GENERAL EITAN THAT ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL WILL NOT BE CONDITIONED UPON THE MOVE INTO SOUTHERN LEBANON OF THE LABANESE ARMY, ALTHOUGH UNIFIL WILL ENCOURAGE THE FORMATION AND DEPLOYMENT IN THE AREA OF THE GENDARMERIE, TO REPRESENT THE AUTHORITY OF THE LEBANESE GOVERNMENT.

4. EITAN REITERATES THAT IT WAS THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO COMPLETELY WITHDRAW FROM SOUTHERN LEBANON. FOR PURPOSES OF WITHDRAWAL, ISRAEL PROPOSES TO DIVIDE THE AREA INTO TWO PARTS. A CENTRAL AREA, FROM WHICH IDF WILL BE COMPLETELY WITHDRAWN BY 30 APRIL 1978, AND A BELT ALONG THE ADL IN THE SOUTH AND TO THE NORTH COMPRISING TWO CHRISTAIN ENCLAVES AND ONE SHIAA ENCLAVE, THE WITHDRAWAL FROM WHICH WILL BE NEGOTIATED AT THE END OF APRIL. THE CENTRAL AREA AND THE BELT ARE DELINEATED ON A MAP SIGNED BY EITAN.

5. EITAN STATED THAT THE REASONS FOR POSTPONING AT THIS TIME, THE WITHDRAWAL FROM THIS BELT CONTAINING THE THREE ABOVE-MENTIONED ENCLAVES WERE THE FOLLOWING:  
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(A) THIS AREA HAS BEEN USED BY HOSTILE ELEMENTS TO LAUNCH CONTINUOUS ATTACKS ON ISRAEL.  
(B) ITS POLULATION HAS BEEN DEPENDENT ON AND IN CLOSE RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS.  
(C) THERE ARE, IN THESE ENCLAVES, FIVE UNTOO OBSERVATION POSTS WHICH GUARANTEE UNITED NATIONS PRESENCE AND OBSERVATION.

6. EITAN INDICATED THAT ISRAEL WILL WITHDRAW FROM THESE ENCLAVES BUT THE MODALITIES AND TIMETABLE SHOULD ONLY BE ESTABLISHED WHEN IT WAS ASCERTAINED THAT UNIFIL IS ABLE TO FULFILL ITS TASKS AND TO MAINTAIN SECURITY IN THE CENTRAL AREA.

7. THE CENTRAL AREA FROM WHICH IDF WILL COMPLETE ITS WITHDRAWAL ON 30 APRIL 1978, IN STAGES TO BE WORKED OUT BETWEEN UNIFIL AND THE NORTHERN COMMAND, MAY BE DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: THE AREA SOUTH OF LITANI IS BORDERED ON THE WEST BY THE MEDITERRANEAN, IN THE SOUTH BY GRID LINE 672, IN THE EAST BY AN APPROXIMATE NORTHWEST LINE TWO KILOMETRES EAST OF THE VILLAGE OF MAJDAL SLIM. THIS AREA INCLUDES THE MAJOR VILLAGES OF TIBNINE, MAJDAL SLIM, JWAYYA AND

QANA. THIS CENTRAL AREA IS APPROXIMATELY 550 SQ. KM.  
AND TOGETHER WITH THE PREVIOUSLY VACATED AREA BY ISRAEL  
ON 11 AND 14 APRIL AMOUNTS TO APPROXIMATELY 750SQ. KMS.  
AND REPRESENTS APPROXIMATELY 65 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL  
TERRITORY OF SOUTHERN LABANON OCCUPIED BY ISRAEL.

8. THE TERRITORIAL BELT COMPRISING THE TWO CHRISTIAN  
AND ONE SHIAA ENCLAVES MAY BE DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:  
(A) CHRISTAIN ENCLAVE I INCLUDES MAJOR VILLAGES OF  
MARJAYOUN, EL KHIAM AND QLAYA.  
(B) THE SHIAA ENCLAVE INCLUDES THE MAJOR WILLAGES OF  
MARKABE, HOULE, BLIDA, BENT JBAIL AND MEISS EL JEBEL.  
(C) CHRISTAIN ENCLAVE II INCLUDES THE MAJOR VILLAGES  
OF NAQUORA, RAS AL BAYADA, ALMA ESH SHAB, RUMAYSH, AYN  
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ABIL, YATAR AND YARUN.  
THESE THREE ENCLAVES ARE ABOUT 400 SQ. KM.

9. EITAN STRONGLY SUGGESTED THAT FOR UNIFIL TO MAINTAIN  
AND ADEQUATE CONTROL IN THE CENTRAL AREA TO BE NOW VACATED  
BY IDF, THE INTERIM FORCE SHOULD MAINTAIN A STRONG PRESENCE  
PARTICULARLY IN TYRE AND TIBNINE, AS WELL AS TO CONTROL  
THE POST OF TYRE, WHICH THE ONLY HARBOUR AVAILABLE TO  
PALESTINIANS FOR SHIPMENT OF ARMS AND AMMOUNITION. FOR  
THIS SAME PURPOSE, EITAN STRONGLY SUGGESTED THAT UNIFIL  
HQ SHOULD BE WITHIN THE UNIFIL AREA OF OPERATIONS.

10. FROM THE DISCUSSION WITH EITAN I GOT THE IMPRESSION  
THAT ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM THE THREE ABOVE-MENTIONED  
ENCLAVES MAY BE CONDITIONED UPON THE AGREEMENT BY UNIFIL  
TO PERMIT THE POPULATION CONTINUED FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT  
ACROSS THE ADL, TRADE RELATIONS AND POSSIBLY SAFETY  
GUARANTEES. THIS MAY BE CONNECTED WITH THE SUDDEN  
INTEREST FOR THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT SHOWN BY FOREIGN  
MINISTER DAYAN DURING HIS MEETING YOU THIS MORNING  
SINCE THAT THIS ARMISTICE AGREEMENT COULD EVENTUALLY  
SERVE AS THE LEGAL BASIS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PEACEFUL  
RELATIONSHIPS ACROSS THE ADL. END TEXT.  
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## Message Attributes

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